THE TIMES-VIRGINIAN
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
IN THE HEART OF VIRGINIA'S DARK TOBACCO BELT
Appomattox, Virginia 24522
ESTABLISHED IN 1892

W. Lloyd Vaughan, J. Franklin Vaughan ..... Co-Publishers and Co-Editors
Will Cook ..... News Editor

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Appomattox, Virginia, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Address all correspondence to The Times-Virginian, Appomattox, Virginia 24522

Subscription rates: $5.00 a year in Amherst, Appomattox, Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte, Nelson and Prince Edward Counties, elsewhere $6.00, payable in advance.

Member: Virginia Press Association

Single Copy 15 cents

The Sunday School Lesson

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Comment on the International Sunday School lesson for Sunday, February 2, 1975.

Topic: A Worshiping People

Scripture: Acts 2: 42-47; I Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Colossians 3: 12-17; James 2: 1-4; I Peter 4: 7-11.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly . . . as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Colossians 3:16.

People worship to establish and to express a relationship with their deity of deities. Worship takes many forms and has varied motivations. Yet there are similarities in worship in the various religions of mankind, even between worship in the Judaeo-Christian tradition and pagan worship. It must have perplexed the spiritually minded of ancient Israel to realize that the priests of Baal offered animal sacrifices before their graven images even as the priests of Israel offered animal sacrifices to God. Each religion has its priesthood, different as it may be among the various religions.

People use worship in various ways. For some it is a method to win the favor of a deity, even to use the deity for one's own purposes. In this respect there was a contrast between pagan worship and the worship of God on its highest plane. The pagans operated on the theory that they could influence, even manipulate, their gods through worship, and indeed an embarrassingly large number of people in the Judaeo-Christian tradition have apparently thought this also and still do. Yet the prophets of ancient Israel, those fearless spokesmen for Yahweh, the name they often gave their God, undertook to correct this notion, for they warned their fellows that God sees and hates the hypocrisy in the wicked, selfish, covetous heart engaged in the ritual of worship.

Yet even in ancient Israel restraints of time and place were put upon worship. When the woman of Samaria asked Jesus whether Jerusalem or Mount Gerizim was the proper place to worship, He told her that true worshipers worshiped the Father in spirit and in truth. He thereby freed people from the obligation to worship in any specific spot but put upon them the greater responsibility to worship everywhere they happen to be.

Worship is not an exercise to be divorced from the rest of living. Worship is a part of living. We commonly think of worship as participation in a public service dedicated to God. This is one type, and a very important type, of worship, but one can worship in every aspect of activity. "Whatever you do," Paul wrote to the Christians at Colosse, "in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." We can worship as we work and as we play. The monks of the Middle Ages had a motto, "Laborare est orare" -- to work is to pray. It is interesting to reflect that the Hebrew language has a word which may be translated work or service or worship.

The early Christians found strength for their living and their witness in communal worship. In this they repeated the experience of the people of Israel. Until Israel developed a system for regular weekly corporate worship, masses of them fell into idolatry. But once the synagogue was devised in the adversity of exile, Israel has since remained true to God. There is a strengthening and a refreshing to be found in regular worship. The first Christians, in the weeks and months after Pentecost, "devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." They set those who come after them the example of living in the attitude of worship.

God seeks man through the new people who in their transformation to become new people become a worshiping community. As the new people worship, they draw inspiration and strength for carrying out their responsibility to do God's work in the world.

Believers have to be constantly on the alert to prevent their worship from becoming routine. The most ritualistic liturgy need not be routine, and the most informal service may be. As worship expresses man's relationship to God, man must make it express a proper relationship, that man is the creature, the creature redeemed through God's love and grace to the fellowship expressed in worship, and that God is to be reverenced, obeyed, honored and loved.

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all points bulletin
SCHOOL'S OPEN!
DRIVE WITH CARE!

Letter To The Editors

Dear Sir,

The Bible warns that if the blind leads the blind, then both shall fall in the ditch. Surely we have blind leaders in both the church and state. They refuse to profit by past history.

We should have learned by now that digging one hole to fill another won't solve our problems. Our fore fathers worked to make this nation into a better place for their children and grandchildren. What are we leaving our children and grandchildren? If we have to to into debt year after year by the billions, how do we expect them to pay off our debts and live their life?

I hear a lot of bragging about our wealth. I wonder if we were to start, say in 1935, and add up the value of our natural resources that we have used and wasted, and add our indebtedness just how much of the glitter of prosperity it would take off. For the past several years we have lived in a time that the Bible describes, "nursing our heart as in a day of slaughter."

Our fore fathers were very conservative in spending. Suppose we had in a stockpile all the energy that has been used for the, past ten years for non-essential purposes. Then we wouldn't be in the shape we are in. There is a big difference between our wants, and what is essential.

I am opposed to any further help to Viet Nam. Any help we give will only prolong the war, and cause more people to be killed. I feel very strongly that the purse strings should be tightened on the welfare program. I also feel that we don't have any choice but to rations gas. If inflation is ever halted the consumer will just have to tighten his belt and buy only what they are bound to have. I am in favor of a roll back in salaries and wages beginning with the president and down to day labor.

Fifty years ago no one could have made me believe that I would ever see the day when many of the churches would court society to get the crowd, and let the spirit of Christ die. Now in many of the churches society just about rules the church with different programs to draw the crowd. Christ, in speaking of himself, said, "If I be lifted up I will draw all men unto me." (John 13:31) I have never seen a spirit filled church that didn't have a crowd. There is but one hope for this nation, and that is to rear leaders in both church and state that will put God and his will first, and earnestly seek his will.

I pray that there will be a might awakening before it is to late.

Yours in God and country,
F. G. Lyon

Competition Underway

Competition is now underway for the 1975 LeRoy Wolfe Writing Awards sponsored by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The two $1,000 cash awards will be presented at the 20th anniversary year of the Foundation. Founded in 1955, the Foundation supports research, care and education in cystic fibrosis and children's lung-damaging diseases.

The awards are made possible by a grant from Mrs. Helen Wolfe in honor of her husband and will be given in each of two categories — magazine and new s p a p e r. Through its awards, the CFF will recognize outstanding writing of news and feature stories on cystic fibrosis and other lung-damaging diseases. Stores will be judged for their impact, accuracy, quality and for excellence in stimulating greater public awareness and concern.

"Millions of children in the U. S. suffer diseases that impair their breathing and damage their lungs," said Foundation president Robert D. McCreery. "These diseases include asthma, chronic bronchitis, bronchiatasis and the most serious of all, cystic fibrosis, which is inherited and incureable. C/F is a model for genetic disease for researchers because of its complex nature."

Through lung-damaged children may look healthy, the need for special diets, medication, limited physical activities, and extensive physical therapy each day set them apart from other children. Parents everywhere should know about cystic fibrosis and children's lung diseases because early diagnosis and specialized care is essential to lengthening lives.

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation was established by a group of parents concerned about the fate of their children affected by the then relatively unknown disease called cystic fibrosis. Today, the Foundation helps support 117 C/F Centers in hospitals and medical schools in the U. S. for diagnosis, treatment, research and education in C/F and other children's lung-damaging diseases and supports extensive research programs and professional and public education programs.

To be eligible for the 1975 LeRoy Wolfe Writing Awards, articles must be published in the U. S. between May 1, 1974, and July 1, 1975. Deadline for entries is August 30, 1975. Entries will be judged by a committee of medical and writing experts, to be announced.

For more information about the Writing Awards program and the CFF, contact your local C/F Chapter or the Cystic Fibrosis National Headquarters office at 3 [illegible] Peachtree Road, N. E. Atlanta, Georgia 30326.

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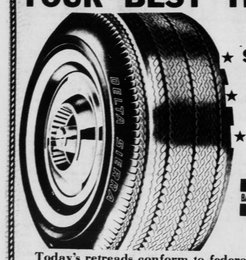

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December 11	William Campbell	Home
December 16	Open	
December 18	Staunton River	Home
December 19	★ Grelton	Home
December 20	Altavista	Away
December 21	Altavista	Away
January 3	★ Liberty	Home
January 4	Nelson County	Home
January 7	★ Rustburg	Home
January 10	Brookville	Away
January 14	Jefferson Forest	Away
January 17	William Campbell	Away
January 21	★ Jefferson Forest	Home
January 23	Open	
January 28	Staunton River	Away
January 29	Grelton	Away
January 31	★ Brookville	Home
February 1	Altavista	Home
February 4	Liberty	Away
February 7	Nelson County	Away
February 11	Rustburg	Away
February 14	★ Brookville	Home

★ To be played at new High school

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ristmas Seal Campaign eflects Economic Crisis

rginia, the 1974 Christ- eal Campaign is $30,000, ss apparent, behind last r contributions at this according to Miss Anna Dickhoff, president of the Region of the Virginia ociation (VLA).

Commenting on the pro- Miss Dickhoff said, "Even we have computerized Christmas Seal Campaign the expenditures of the rising cost of programs aimed at ention and control of ses makes it essential campaign to show an this year.

hasten to remind our ributors that their the Campaign, even ailed to the computer at Fairfax, are returned to the VLA, Central Region for programs that will benefit our community. The support of our friends and neighbors is essential for the success of the lung association's work during the next year."

The VLA's year-round program of work includes medical education in the care of lung disease patients for physicians, nurses, and allied health professionals; patient family education on emphysema and other chronic obstrutive lung diseases; air c o nservation; youth programs; antismoking programs; and the rehabilitation of persons handicapped by lung diseases or other factors. Funds given to the Christmas Seal Campaign make these services available to residents of the VLA, Central Region.

Rocks

ARY 27 - No school on nday because of the

Richardson went to a in Petersburg last

ly recovery is wished Roach who broke her ks on Monday night. mber were out on nday night to see the Mr. and Mrs. Wilson d trip to Kenya, Africa ly.

Bernard Richardson of ntoix, spent a night last with Mrs. Harry Ranson. S. F. R. Moore had a g on Thursday.

and Mrs. Lloyd Richard- ad Mike were in with the week.

Farrar is in the Lynchburg General Hospital. A ly recovery is wished him.

U Focus Week will be ed February 9-15.

mber of the Brotherhood A's met at the church on y night for the oyster

Men's Day was ed at church on Sunday. 18 men rendered music. Barry Elder the choir. The men had Sunday School classes Preaching Service morning and Sunday hey did a wonderful

Don Wagner returned North Carolina Friday and was sick in bed but was out on

Kermit Paulette had removed at Virginia Hospital on Friday. She home Sunday.

and Mrs. Randy Brad- of Richmond, spent with Mr. and Mrs. Martin of near Ever-

and Mrs. Barry Elder, of are spending a few with their parents.

ryone was glad to hear Clarkie Ranson is home from the hospital.

Burks Extension Home-

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makers Club will meet with Mrs. Ruth Caldwell on February 6 at 7:30 p.m.

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Richfood
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Bunker Hill - 15 Oz. Can
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Pork & Beans
Phillips
16 Oz. Can 3 for 89¢

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Wigwam 16 Oz. Can
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lb. 39¢

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Del Monte - 46 Oz. Can
Pineapple- Grapefruit Juice 2 for 99¢

Potatoes
10 Lb. Bag 79¢

Golden Grain
Macaroni & Cheese Dinner
Macaroni & Chedder Dinner
3 for 89¢